

Ladies' Auxiliary Societies.

Y. P. S. C. E.

This organization was established February 2, 1881, in Williston, Maine, by Rev. Francis E. Clark. The Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor is simply an organized effort to lead the young people to Christ and into His church, to establish them firmly in the faith, and to set them at work in the Lord's vineyard. Motto—"For Christ and the Church."

The Society of Christian Endeavor stands for:

1. Denominational loyalty.
2. Definite pledged service.
3. Daily prayer and bible reading.
4. International fellowship.
5. Systematic committee work.
6. Monthly consecration meetings.

The first local society of Christian Endeavor was organized in the Presbyterian church March 4, 1880, with nine active members and a Junior society was organized in the same church a few months later. Through the efforts of one Christian Endeavorer herself—a member of the Lutheran church—a society was organized in that church.

We are unable to give a complete late record of the last named society, but it has about twenty-five members, and has found in the pastor a faithful leader and helper.

The Senior Society of Christian Endeavor of the Presbyterian church has present membership of forty-seven; the Junior society fifty-five.

Although no special effort has been made to raise money in either society much has been given for different purposes, most of it as monthly offerings. Since organization the Juniors have given about \$42 for missions and the Seniors \$79.50. Both societies are at present helping to support our State Christian Endeavor missionary, Miss Hatch, who is working in the Laos.

While the Society of Christian Endeavor has social, literary and other features it has been as intended by its founder, "first, last and always a religious society."

LADIES' AUX. Y. M. C. A.

The Ladies' Auxiliary of the Y. M. C. A. was organized March 5, 1892.

The object of the organization is to assist the Association in its work among young men by helping to make the rooms attractive and homelike and to aid in receptions and social work.

It is the duty of each member to seek to advance the work of the Association, by endeavoring to bring young men under its influence. Each member is entitled to the privileges of the Association as well as books, papers, etc. The members are divided into three committees: decorative, social and reception, to better aid in the work.

The regular meetings are held the first Friday in each month at 4:15 p. m. in the Association rooms.

An initiation fee of twenty-five cents is charged each member and yearly dues of fifty cents are paid semi-annually.

The Auxiliary has given a number of suppers, socials and entertainments, also several receptions to the members of the Y. M. C. A.

The funds raised in this manner were devoted to improving the rooms such as painting, papering, cleaning, buying pictures, papers, books, etc. They also gave material aid in helping to organize a Boys' Auxiliary to the Association.

If the Christian women of North Platte understood the good that this department of the Y. M. C. A. work might accomplish for our young men, we are sure more of them would give it their hearty co-operation.

North Platte has a reputation for the number of lodges and societies for women as well as men, yet surely we have no lodge in the city that should be placed before our Ladies' Auxiliary to the Y. M. C. A.

SIGNET CHAPTER, NO. 55, O. E. S.
The Order of the Eastern Star, though not a part of the Ancient Order of Free and Accepted Masons is closely related to it by reason that only masons, their wives, daughters, mothers, widows and sisters are eligible. This order exists for the purpose of being a co-worker with the Masonic brother, in providing for the welfare of families of Master Masons, and promulgating the principles of love, relief and truth.

Signet Chapter No. 55, O. E. S. was organized under dispensation in May, 1892, and received its charter in June, 1893.

It has continued in unabated prosperity until now ninety-eight members are enrolled.

During 1894 twelve new members were initiated and have been passed through the impressive degrees and floral work. Seven new members have come in on dimitts from other Chapters.

Relief is offered and readily extended by a standing relief committee whenever required, although it is a well-known fact that Masons and their families are but seldom brought to distress or want. And when they, by unforeseen or unfortunate circumstances are obliged to turn to their fellow-workers for assistance, it is a matter which concerns them alone, and is never published to the world.

As a social organization the Eastern Star has no peer. Signet Chapter can certainly boast of what it has gained

through the delightful medium of socials. Besides the social enjoyment and good fellowship created, enough money has been made to purchase handsome paraphernalia for the officers, and it is now one of the best equipped chapters in the state.

SARAH REBEKAH LODGE NO. 10, the oldest woman's secret society of North Platte, was organized Jan. 28th, 1876, by I. W. LaMunyon. Upon election of officers James M. Ray, now county judge, had the honor of being elected to fill the chair of Noble Grand the first term. The membership numbered at this time about thirty-three. There being neither membership fees or dues wherewith to create a fund, the question arose as to ways and means for procuring lodge regalia, organ, etc., which was finally secured by Mrs. Chas. Hall soliciting funds from the Odd Fellows and others who felt charitably inclined. In December, 1883, the lodge elected Mrs. Chas. Hall to the chair of N. G., she being the first lady elected to fill that office in Sarah Rebekah Lodge No. 10.

Soon after this time the members, having lost some interest in the work, caused by some leaving town, others not attending meetings and other reasons not known to the writer, this society went down, or in other words, went to sleep until Oct. 12th, 1889, when it awoke and was reorganized with a membership of eleven, as follows: Sisters Hall, Hoagland, Stevens and Walsh, Brothers Hoagland, Hall, Walsh, Adams, Smith, Warner and Klein. Since that time it has continued to grow and shows on our roll to day a membership of one hundred.

In giving a history of this lodge it is not necessary to speak of what our aims and objects are, but will close with the hope that this lodge may go on with the good work so well begun, not faltering by the way side, but continuing to sow the good seed, that we, or others following in our footsteps, may reap a bountiful harvest. May our labor in the cause of F., L. and T. be crowned with success is the wish of a member.

LADIES OF THE MACCABEES.

The Ladies of the Maccabees is the only exclusive women's beneficiary order in the world. Its growth has been remarkable. Only four years old, yet it has a membership of 42,063, showing that some woman has begun to take her rightful place in the busy scenes of life.

The objects of the order are protection in the hour of need, fraternity, benevolence, education and reform. In times of trouble to aid in every way possible, visit the sick, care for the widow and orphan.

Prize of Nebraska, Hike No. 1, was organized November 7, 1891, by Supreme Record Keeper Bida M. West, with a charter membership of sixty-five—the largest in the world at that time under supreme jurisdiction. Now there is an endowment membership of sixty-two, and twenty social. It holds a banner from the supreme hive in the state and we hope to keep it.

There has been one death in our hive—the beneficiaries receiving \$1,000, the deceased having paid in only \$11.40. Seeing how kind and faithful our members were, especially on sick committee, one lady was heard to say that she was more a Maccabee than ever; and so we hope that it will win the name of the "finest and best" in our land.

Drill in the floor work is now in progress and we hope to make our hive pleasant and attractive.

The attendance has been exceptionally good. Any lady of good character may become a member. Our meetings are held on the second and fourth Saturdays at 2:30 p. m. We extend a cordial invitation to the ladies of North Platte to join us and help in carrying on the good work we have begun.

DEGREE OF POOCHONTAS, L. O. E. M.

The Improved Order of Red Men is the oldest American fraternal and social organization now in existence in the United States. It is founded on the customs and traditions of the aborigines of our country, preserving the character and peculiarities of the Indian race.

The degree of Poochontas was organized about ten years ago and has steadily increased in growth and usefulness. The name of the degree was taken from the noted character in Indian history, Poochontas, who so nobly proved her constant friendship and hospitality to the pale faces.

Among the objects of this degree are the moral advancement of the members and friends, the promotion of social enjoyment, bury the dead and educate the orphan; all of which work tends to the elevation of humanity and is naturally a part of woman's work.

Our local council, Winona Council No. 5, has been organized two years, and has about fifty members in good standing. Our council fire is kindled in our tepee on the second and fourth sleep of each moon, when we pass a pleasant and social time listening to long and short talks of chiefs and members.

Any pale face lady, of good character, whose age has reached eighteen great suns, can become a member by adoption.

THE DEGREE OF HONOR.

A lodge known as the Degree of Honor A. O. U. W., was organized in North Platte Dec. 18th, 1893, by the state organizer J. G. Butler, with a charter membership of 105. The object of the Degree of Honor, aside from the beneficiary ad-

vantages its members enjoy, is of a common interest with the A. O. U. W. in promoting works of charity and benevolence, union sympathy and friendship among the families of the members of the order. Our present membership now numbers 129 social members, of that number thirty-five hold insurance policies of \$1,000 each.

WOMAN'S RELIEF CORPS.

The Woman's Relief Corps, auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic, is purely a soldier organization. Its objects are:

- 1st. To specially aid and assist the Grand Army of the Republic and to perpetuate the memory of their heroic dead.
- 2d. To assist such union veterans as need our help and protection, and to extend helpful aid to their widows and orphans; to find them homes and employment and assure them sympathy and friends; to cherish and emulate the deeds of our army nurses, add of all the loyal women who rendered loving service to the our country in the hour of peril.

3d. To maintain true allegiance to the United States of America; to inculcate lessons of patriotism and love of country among our children and in the communities in which we live; and encourage the spread of universal liberty and equal rights to all.

Those who are eligible to membership in this grand organization are women of good moral character and correct deportment, who have not given aid and comfort to the enemies of the Union, who would perpetuate the principles to which this association stands pledged, and who have attained the age of sixteen years. It is impressed upon the mind of anyone who wishes to join that this order exists more for the benefit of others than for the relief of its own members.

The local Stephen A. Douglas Corps No. 110 was organized May 8, 1890, by Mrs. Lucy Griswold of Lexington. It was officered by local efficient and bright women. Never before since its organization has it, in four months' time, accomplished so much work, nor has there been as much interest manifested nor was it in as prosperous a condition as it has been since January 5, of this year.

The work of relief is managed principally by the relief committee, which is selected with the utmost care by the Corps president. It has done a grand, noble work, in relieving the needy and distressed this winter, spending more money than ever in the same length of time. (From the time of the organization of the Corps up to the present time the members have been \$1,298.56, and one hundred dollars. The relief committee has been about \$600.)

There is no organization that does more charity work with the means it has to command and the size of the order than the Relief Corps. Its membership is composed of able, broad-minded, generous and loyal women. Women who know neither friend nor foe in the hour of distress, but who are always ready to extend a helping hand to the needy ones, smoothing the pillow of the sick, and comforting the dying and distressed, their works are those of love, and their deeds of kindness can only be numbered by the applications for help and the opportunities for honoring the memory of their heroic dead.

While only a few, comparatively of our army nurses are in the ranks of the living, yet they are honored by the members of this most worthy and patriotic band of women, as they should be who rendered loving service to their country in the trying times of the sixties. The loyal women of this order who had no loved ones in the Rebellion exerted themselves to inculcate lessons of patriotism and love of country in the minds of their children as well as those whose noble women who gave up their husbands and sons to their country in its hour of peril.

It is through the exertions and influence of the G. A. R. that this unselfish army of the Relief Corps are enabled to teach allegiance to the United States and encourage universal liberty and equal rights to all men.

The work of the Department (State) is much similar in organization to the local organizations. Its membership numbers 3,887. The treasury contains \$1,509.21. Through the relief fund of the state a great many cases are aided and comforted that it would be impossible for a local Corps to take charge of. The national membership is 131,081. The amount of money expended for relief for 1894, was \$170,584.26. In accumulating and expending this large sum of money, the noble hearted W. R. C. women show to the world that the sacrifices of the soldiers is held in grateful remembrance in their hearts, and they are proud to be called the Auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic.

LADIES OF THE G. A. R.

Objects—To unite with loyalty, love for each other, to practice the precepts of true fraternity of feeling towards all sisters of our order, thus emulating the spirit which unites our fathers, husbands, sons and brothers, to honor the memory of those fallen, and to perpetuate and keep forever sacred "Memorial Day."

To assist the Grand Army of the Republic in its high and holy mission, and encourage and sympathize with them in their noble work of charity, to extend helpful aid to members in sickness and distress, to aid sick soldiers, sailors and

marines, to do all in our power to alleviate suffering and especially to look after the soldier's homes, soldier's widow's homes and soldiers orphan's homes, to see that the children obtain proper situations when they leave the homes, to watch the schools and see to it that all children obtain proper education in the history of our country and in patriotism.

During the dark days of 61-65, it was the mothers, wives, sisters and daughters of the men, who had left their homes in defense of their country, who founded soldier's aid societies all over the land; these devoted women set to work, to knit, to scrape lint and get together supplies for hospitals; these aid societies were the backbone and sinews of that gigantic success—the military commission—they were the first example of what organized women can do. How these brave women toiled and suffered will never be written; a record of their daily deeds would make an epic of almost divine self-sacrifice. They rejoiced with each other when a battle was fought and their beloved had been spared; they sorrowed with each other when one was wounded or all that made life glad.

When peace was declared, it was still these women who were the gallant remnant of the grandest army ever known; the keen eye of affliction saw at once that there was work to do; for many returned physical wounds; so the aid societies lived on. When the veterans founded the Grand Army of the Republic who could estimate these women that they claimed to be part of that grand order? They are as truly part of that noble organization as they are part of the home; they had endured the hardships of war at home, as the men had at the front—many had gone to the front as army nurses. They had shown a devotion, unparaleled in history, to their country in the hour of her greatest peril.

In 1884, they established a national organization under the name, Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic. They have a membership of 17,000 and rapidly on the increase. When it is considered that only mothers, wives, sisters and daughters of honorably discharged soldiers, sailors and marines, who served during the rebellion are eligible to membership, this is a fine showing. The Ladies of the Grand Army are an independent organization, answerable to no other order, working in harmony and peace with all such as having the same objects. Co-workers with the G. A. R., they prefer no parade, they go quietly about their business, making no parade or display of their work. Required to attend the funeral of a fallen soldier, they have originated the custom of dropping the flag of the dead soldier, with the flag in his hand.

This order is represented in North Platte by S. A. Douglas Circle No. 20.

The W. A. P. A. of Women's Protective Association is auxiliary to the A. P. A. and was organized in North Platte two years ago. The objects of the order are:

1. To take our public schools beyond the dogmatic control of any sectarian institution;
2. To inculcate in the minds of the youth of our land a love of country, a reverence for the flag of our nation, and an earnest desire for purity of the ballot;
3. To encourage compulsory education;
4. To protect America from the wholesale immigration of the ignorant paupers and criminals of foreign nations;
5. To encourage governmental inspection of all educational institutions;
6. To teach patriotism.

BAPTIST YOUNG PEOPLE'S UNION.

The B. Y. P. U., of North Platte, was reorganized May 1894, with seven active members; the present membership is thirty-five. A similar society was organized at Hershey Nov. 1894, with a membership of fifteen; present membership fifty-four. Our outlook is hopeful and much interest is taken in the meetings.

The hope of the church and the hope of the world is with the young. If the young people of this generation could be saved from intemperance and profanity and vice and immorality, and could be imbued with faith in the Savior, and enlisted in the work of saving others, in a few years this nation would not only be called a Christian nation from sentiment or as a compliment, but it would be such in deed and in truth. If the young who are rapidly coming upon the stage of action could be schooled to become faithful workers for Christ, only a few years would be needed until this world that now "lieth in wickedness" could be laid as a sparkling jewel at the feet of the world's Redeemer. An Englishman once said: "You can make something out of a Scotchman if you catch him young." Knowing that the minds and destinies of youth are easily turned this way and that by gentle influences, we should endeavor to give them the right trend in early life. Save the boy or girl and you save the man or woman.

D. OF K.

The Daughters of the King is a society composed of girls and women who are communicants of the Episcopal church. The object of this society is the spreading Christ's Kingdom among young women. It has two rules—the rule of service and the rule of daily prayer. Its motto is "For His Sake." The chapter here is known as the Bishop Anson F. Graves Chapter. It was named in honor of the Bishop because it was the first Chapter to be organized in western Nebraska. Its work has been very successful, not in money-making, however, but in bringing young women into the church.

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